

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a surfactant-free suspension ~~including hydrophobic particles and at least 50.01 % by weight of water,~~
~~which comprises~~ comprising
suspending a hydrophobic, nanostructured particles particle in at least one organic solvent miscible with water and having a boiling point below 150°C, and then intensively and thoroughly mixing this concentrated organic suspension with surfactant-free water wherein said surfactant-free suspension comprises at least 50.01 % by weight of water.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein
~~use is made of particles whose~~ the average diameter of said hydrophobic,
nanostructured particle is from 0.01 to 100 µm.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2,~~
wherein
~~use is made of particles whose~~ the average diameter of said hydrophobic,
nanostructured particle is from 0.05 to 30 µm.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to~~
~~3~~ claim 1,
wherein
~~use is made of particles~~ said hydrophobic, nanostructured particle is selected from the
group consisting of minerals, aluminum oxide, silicates, silicas, metal oxides, mixed oxides, metal powders, pigments, ~~and~~ polymers and mixtures thereof.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1,

wherein

the particles have hydrophobic properties after treatment with at least one compound from the group consisting of the alkylsilanes, fluoroalkylsilanes and disilazanes.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1,

wherein said organic solvent miscible with water is

acetone or tetrahydrofuran ~~is used as organic solvent~~.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1,

wherein said organic solvent miscible with water is

an alcohol ~~is used as organic solvent~~.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 7,
wherein
~~use is made of an~~ said alcohol selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, ~~and~~ isopropanol and mixtures thereof.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An aqueous suspension prepared by the process as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The suspension as claimed in claim 9,

~~which~~

has comprising from 0.10 to 2.50% by weight of suspended hydrophobic particles,
based on the suspension.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The suspension as claimed in claim 9 ~~or 10~~,

~~which~~

has comprising from 0.10 to 49.98% by weight of alcohol, based on the suspension.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The suspension as claimed in claim 9,

~~which~~

has comprising at least 60.00% by weight of water, based on the suspension.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the suspension prepared as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 8 for producing~~ A detachable dirt- and water-repellant coatings coating on particles comprising the suspension prepared by the process of claim 1.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a detachable, dirt- and water-repellant coating on articles, where, during the coating process, hydrophobic particles are applied to the surface of the articles and thus a surface structure with elevations is produced on the surface of the articles, and has dirt- and water-repellant properties,

~~which comprises~~ comprising

applying, to at least one surface, a suspension prepared as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, and then removing the suspension medium.

Claim 15 (Original): The process as claimed in claim 14,

wherein

the application of the suspension to at least one surface of an article takes place by dipping the article into the suspension.

Claim 16 (Original): The process as claimed in claim 14,

wherein

the application of the suspension to at least one surface of an article takes place by spray-application of the suspension.

Claim 17 (Original): The process as claimed in claim 16,

wherein

a spray is used to apply the suspension.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): An article which has, on at least one surface, a water- and dirt-repellant coating produced by a process as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 14 to 17~~ claim 14.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A protective coating produced by the process as claimed in ~~any of claims 14 to 17~~ claim 14.

Claim 20 (Original): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19,

which

can be removed from the surface of the article by impact from a liquid with momentum greater than 12 mNs.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~, which is used to protect articles, films or textiles from high levels of contamination by dirt and/or water during outdoor activities, during leisure or during work.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~, which is used to protect articles and products from contamination during transport or in spaces used for purposes of sales or of presentations.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~, which is used to protect technical textiles and fabrics used for textile buildings.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): An impregnating spray which comprises a suspension as claimed in ~~any of claims 9 to 12~~ claim 9.